This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously presented) A method for the calibration of an electronic camera having operating properties, said camera located at a user's local site, physically distant from a remote site having parameter adjustment intelligence and accessible to users, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) selecting at the remote site parameters influencing the camera operating properties at the local site;

(b) selecting and/or instantly generating an optical stimulus at said remote site according to said selected parameters, transmitting said optical stimulus via telecommunication means from said remote site to said local site, and receiving said optical stimulus at the camera;

(c) acquiring at least one image of said received optical stimulus by the camera;

(d) transmitting said at least one image via telecommunication means from said camera at said local site to said remote site;

(e) evaluating said at least one image at said remote site, wherein in the event that the step of evaluating (step (e)) yields unsatisfactory results, the method further comprises iteratively optimizing said camera operating properties by selectively repeating step (a) and step (b) or both as well as steps (c) to (e) until the evaluating step (step (e)) yields satisfactory results;

(f) transmitting to said camera an instruction to additionally acquire at least one image of at least one optical stimulus;

(g) repeating step (d); and

(h) validating the optimization of said camera operating properties by means of the at least one additionally acquired image.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said optical stimulus comprises at least one image and is presented to the camera by an image presentation device located at said local site.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein said image presentation device is selected from the group consisting of a video monitor, a computer monitor, a slide projector, a transparency projector, an overhead projector, and a printed-paper projector.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein prior to acquiring the image of said optical stimulus (step (c)), parameters influencing the camera operating properties are selected at said remote site and transmitted via telecommunication means from said remote site to said local site.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein parameters influencing the camera operating properties are determined at said remote site, the determination depending on the evaluation of said at least one image (step (e)), and transmitted via telecommunication means from said remote site to said local site.

7-9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said telecommunication means are electronic and/or optical telecommunication means and ~~preferably~~ comprise a worldwide data transmission network such as the internet, a leased or switched telephone line, or an optical data link.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein a local controller/interface device is located at said local site between the camera and said telecommunication means.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein said local controller/interface device is connected to the camera via an output data interface and an input data interface.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein said local controller/interface device controls said image presentation device.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein said local controller/interface device is connected to said image presentation device via a video interface.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein an expert is located at said remote site and controls the performance of the method according to any of the previous claims, said expert being a human person and/or an electronic controlling device.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein a remote controller/interface device is located at said remote site between said expert and said telecommunication means.

17. (Previously presented) An arrangement for the calibration of an electronic camera having operating properties, comprising

means for placing the camera located at a user's local site;

means located at a site remote from said local site for selecting parameters influencing the camera operating properties;

means located at said site remote from said local site for selecting and/or instantly generating an optical stimulus according to said selected parameters;

an image presentation device located at said local site adapted to present the remotely selected and/or instantly generated optical stimulus to the camera;

means for evaluating an image acquired by the camera, said image-evaluating means being located at the site remote from said local site;

means for determining said parameters influencing the camera operating properties, depending on the evaluation of said image, said parameter-determining means being located at said site remote from said local site;

bi-directional telecommunication means for connecting said local site and said remote site, to iteratively optimize said camera operating properties until the image evaluating means determines that the image acquired by the camera is satisfactory; and

means for validating the optimization of said camera by means of at least one additionally acquired image and said evaluation means.

18. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said image presentation device is selected from the group consisting of a video monitor, a computer monitor, a slide projector, a transparency projector, an overhead projector, and a printed-paper projector.

19. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said image-evaluating means are an electronic controlling device.

20. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said parameter-determining means are a computer.

21. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said bi-directional telecommunication means are selected from the group consisting of electronic telecommunication means and optical telecommunication means.

22. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 21, wherein said bi-directional telecommunication means are selected from the group consisting of a worldwide data transmission network, a leased or switched telephone line, and an optical data link.

23. (Previously presented) A data processing system for the calibration of an electronic camera located at a user's local site, the camera having operating properties, wherein said data processing system includes a display and an operating system, said data processing system comprising:

means disposed remotely from said camera for selecting parameters influencing said camera operating properties;

means disposed remotely from said camera for selecting and/or instantly generating an optical stimulus according to said selected parameters;

means disposed remotely from said camera for transmitting said optical stimulus via telecommunication means to said camera at the user's local site;

means for receiving via telecommunication means an image acquired by the camera;

means for evaluating said image;

means for iteratively optimizing said camera operating properties based on said evaluation;

means disposed remotely from said camera for determining parameters influencing said camera properties, depending on the evaluation of said image;

means disposed remotely from said camera for transmitting said parameters via telecommunication means to said camera; and

means for validating said optimized camera operating properties.

24. (Previously presented) A computer readable medium, having a program recorded thereon, where the program is to make a computer execute the following procedures:

a) to select at a remote site parameters influencing operating properties of a camera that is disposed at a user's local site;

b) to remotely select and/or instantly generate an optical stimulus according to said selected parameters; to transmit said optical stimulus via

telecommunication means from said remote site to the camera and to receive said optical stimulus at the camera;

c) to acquire at least one image of said received optical stimulus by the camera;

d) to transmit said at least one image via telecommunication means from said camera at said local site to said remote site;

e) to evaluate said at least one image at said remote site;

f) to determine said parameters influencing the camera operating properties, depending on the evaluation of said image, wherein in the event that the evaluation (e) yields unsatisfactory results, the procedures further comprise:

1) to transmit said parameters via telecommunication means from said remote site to the camera; and

2) to iteratively optimize said camera operating properties by selectively repeating procedure (a) and procedure (b) or both as well as procedures (c) to (f) until the evaluation (e) yields satisfactory results;

g) to transmit to said camera an instruction to additionally acquire at least one image of at least one optical stimulus;

h) to repeat procedure (d); and

i) to validate the optimization of said camera operating procedures by means of the at least one additionally acquired image.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein said local controller/interface device controls said image presentation device.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 25, wherein said local controller/interface device is connected to said image presentation device via a video interface.